

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

"The insurance of a country
is the education of its
youth."

-- Disraeli.

LIBRARY OF THE
BUREAU OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS

FEB 6 - 1937

EXPERIMENT STATION FILE

A GREAT 4-H CLUB YEAR

National Report, 1935

By

Gertrude L. Tarren

Organization, 4-H Club Work

Division of Cooperative Extension

CONTENTS

	Page
Outstanding developments	2
Organization and supervision of work	3
New studies under way	5
Result demonstrations	7
Gardens, orchards, and yard improvement	7
Food preservation and preparation	8
Health	8
Clothing	10
Home improvement	11
Home management	12
Child development	12
Farm crops	13
Livestock	15
Conservation of natural resources	18
Other result demonstrations	19
Group activities	20
Demonstration teamwork	20
Judging work	21
Music appreciation and radio work	21
Dramatics and pageants	22
Tours and nature hikes	23
Camps	23
Special 4-H club days and ceremonies	24
Exhibits and fairs	24
Events at State agricultural colleges	25
Achievement days	25
Service activities	25
Summary and outlook	26

DISTRIBUTION: A copy of this circular has been sent to each State extension director; State and assistant State leader in 4-H club work; agricultural-college library; and experiment-station library.

A GREAT 4-H CLUB YEAR

OUTSTANDING DEVELOPMENTS

The work of the 4-H clubs during the year 1935 reached another high point in the number of rural young people enrolled and the effectiveness of the demonstrations conducted. The membership of rural boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 21 totaled 997,744, being an 8.9 percent increase over that of 1934, and considerably larger than the average increase of any year since the beginning of the work. This large increase in enrollment was due mainly to three factors, (1) a better economic situation in most parts of the United States, (2) an increase in the employed personnel, due in turn to an increase in appropriations, and (3) an increase in the amount of time devoted to 4-H club work by the average agent, doubtless due in turn to the better organization and understanding of the county emergency work under way. The average enrollment per county extension agent in 1935 was 193 members. The ratio of the girls' enrollment to that of the boys' remained practically the same as in previous years, being approximately 3 girls to every 2 boys enrolled; the total enrollment of rural girls being 592,053 as compared with that of 405,691 rural boys.

Of the total enrollment, 705,734 rural young people, or 70.7 percent completed their work. Moreover, there were 16 States in which more than 80 percent of the 4-H members completed their required work. The amount of work undertaken by 4-H club members varied in keeping with the general programs under way in the different States. The project enrollment for the entire country totaled 1,869,366, averaging approximately two projects in agriculture or homemaking per member. Of this number of projects, 1,242,323 were completed, being commonly considered as result demonstrations and comparing favorably with both those of the previous years and with the 788,615 result demonstrations reported in the adult extension program.

The average length of membership of 1935 club members was 2.25 years for boys and 2.19 years for girls, or 2.21 years for both boys and girls. According to the 1935 reports, 67.32 percent of the boys and girls were enrolled in 4-H club work for 2 years and under; 14.37 percent for 3 years; and the other 18.31 percent were enrolled in 4-H club work for a period of 4 years or more. Of the boys and girls in club work 39.97 percent were 12 years old and under; 39.65 percent were 13 to 15, inclusive; and the remainder, or 20.38 percent, were 16 to 20, inclusive.

Although there is a wide variation among the States in the percentage of rural boys and girls that were reached by 4-H club work, it is encouraging to note the steady increase for the country as a whole. According to estimates made during 1935 there was reached 35.9 percent of the rural boys and girls of the average 4-H starting age, which was 12.2 years.

More State reports indicated that 4-H club work was becoming an integral part of the general extension program than in any year previous. The needs and possibilities of young people were considered as never before alongside those of their fathers, mothers, and neighbors. Likewise, the economic aspects of the 4-H club programs were given consideration alongside those of the adult programs in the outlook conferences held at the beginning of the year. Ample opportunity was provided in a majority of the States for the participation of their rural young people in both the planning and the carrying out of the general community extension programs. Club programs were made exceedingly flexible so that they could be easily adjusted to changing economic and social conditions. Moreover, in the formulation of 4-H club programs, more opportunity was provided for the inclusion of those activities that enrich everyday living, such as work in music and art appreciation, in the distribution of good books, and in the study of the great outdoors. Club activities such as tours, fairs, sales, camps, and achievement days were better coordinated and made more effective in conveying to the community the import of the 4-H club work under way. Plans of work involving activities to be undertaken and methods to be employed were more carefully formulated than at any time in the past. More training conferences for local leaders were held. More and better literature for the use of local leaders and county agents was prepared. More judging work was done both by competent leaders and by the members themselves. At the same time a noteworthy decrease occurred in those competitive features that often mar the educational values of such work. Also, the number of 4-H club members entering college constituted approximately 30 percent - a gratifying increase - of the entire student enrollment in the agricultural and home-economics courses in the land-grant colleges. Along with this increase was an increase in the number of 4-H cooperative houses on college campuses, thereby enabling club members to go to college at small cost. These factors played a part in the encouraging wave of general approval of the 4-H club program and what it is making possible in the lives of rural young people of all races as reflected in the public addresses of men of affairs, in the literature of some of our foremost writers, and in the increased financial support of State legislatures and business men. Outstanding evidences of this Nation-wide approval were the three State 4-H buildings erected in New York, Kansas, and Oklahoma, as well as the organization of 4-H club work in Puerto Rico during 1935 on the same basis as that in Hawaii and Alaska.

ORGANIZATION AND SUPERVISION OF THE WORK

One of the outstanding developments of 4-H club work during 1935 was the relatively large increase in the number of 4-H clubs organized, there being 60,720 clubs, as compared with 55,685 in 1934. Equally outstanding was the large increase in the number of local 4-H club leaders. In 1935, 106,403 men and women voluntarily devoted time and effort to the work of the 4-H clubs. Of this number 31,853 were young men and women, many of whom were former club members. These figures compare with a total leadership of 93,951 in 1934, of whom 28,401 were young people. In the early years of the work, to secure the services of one local leader for each club was an effort. In 1935, there were nearly 18 local leaders for every 10

clubs, an indication that the majority of clubs had both a local leader and an assistant local leader. In 1935 there were held 18,071 training conferences with a total attendance of 293,295 local leaders. Reports show that the average local leader attended nearly twice as many local-leader training conferences as he had attended 5 years earlier. This increased attendance accounted in a large measure for the increased effectiveness of the work.

In 1935, there was also a larger paid personnel who devoted all their time to the supervision of the 4-H club program. The number of county club agents totaled 293. This number does not take into consideration a comparatively large number of assistant county agents who also devoted their whole time to 4-H club work. In the State offices there was a considerable increase in the number of State and associate State club leaders employed. In some States, there was also an increase in employment of district club agents.

One of the most encouraging developments during 1935 was the increase in number of county associations of local leaders; county club councils of representative club members and leaders; and county and community club committees made up of representative men and women. All these organizations did much to strengthen the 4-H club programs through aiding county extension agents in caring for details; in analyzing the results already obtained; in finding fine, upstanding men and women to act as leaders, advisers, or sponsors of clubs; in assisting in the holding of general 4-H community activities; and in acquainting the public with the 4-H club activities under way.

The organization of the individual 4-H club was also strengthened. More training meetings for local leaders and club officers were held; more emphasis was placed on the formulation of programs by club members themselves, who set their own goals of accomplishment; more importance was attached to the regular club meeting, particularly in the home, with the result that standards for meetings were materially raised; and more originality, involving a wholesome, active interest, was noted in the special meetings when new officers were installed or new members were admitted. In this connection, the methods of dealing with young people received much attention. To this end professional-improvement conferences were held in many States, where general educational procedures were studied from the standpoint of their application to the 4-H club program.

Of particular significance during 1935, was the emphasis placed on the organization of the older group of 4-H club members and on the formulation of suggestive programs especially suited to their ages and interests. With this group, the development of the discussion method in connection with the handling of their own selected topics continued to gain headway. Recreational activities and those pertaining to social development seemed to appeal most to this group of young people, although a real effort was made to bring to them those phases of agricultural and homemaking information that would aid in equipping them to start homemaking and farming for themselves. In many instances, a special effort also was made to furnish these young people with the best type of vocational guidance. With the

accumulation of experience in formulating suggestive programs, in setting up different types of organizations, and in furnishing different types of guidance material, there is being developed a set of principles that probably will prove, in time, to be sound and worthy of consideration by those attempting to work with this age group.

Of importance to the whole 4-H club program has been the widespread organization of college 4-H clubs. These clubs, during 1935, wielded considerable influence in reinforcing club programs in local communities and in focusing the attention of club members on the importance of obtaining as much education as possible.

Parallel with the effort placed on enlisting in the 4-H club organization more of the older group of young people, was an effort to have the 4-H club demonstrations function as an integral part of the general community extension program to the end that such 4-H demonstration work may be truly recognized as a real part of the extension organization, on the basis of the family unit. Moreover, it is felt that by so doing, an opportunity is afforded to develop work with young people, particularly those of the older group, on a much finer basis and of much more benefit to them, insomuch as real life situations are provided for the formulation of programs that will meet the genuine needs of rural young people as well as of the community in general.

NEW STUDIES UNDER WAY

Believing that sound procedures can only be gained from a careful study of the whole 4-H club program, intense interest was manifested in the studies of 4-H club work under way during 1935. Of particular importance was the completion of the study made by the 4-H club committee appointed by the executive committee of the Land-Grant College Association to review the present 4-H club organization, objectives, programs, trends, and relationships. As a result of the study made by this committee, a comprehensive report was submitted and accepted recommending the policies that should govern 4-H club work throughout the United States. Parallel with this comprehensive study was another, completed at the University of Illinois, regarding the selectivity of 4-H club work in relation to an analysis of the factors influencing membership. In the report of this study, it was pointed out that considerable attention might well be given to making 4-H club work appeal to many boys and girls not now reached - those in families that feel that they cannot afford even the moderately financed outlay necessary for most demonstrations in club work; those having the fewer or less attractive social opportunities; and especially those with potentially good qualities who are not now in 4-H club work because their parents take little or no active interest in organizations and community affairs.

At the University of Missouri, in the study made by Germane and Germane,¹ there was apparent agreement with Hartshorne and May, eminent psychologists of Yale University, who recently stated that 4-H club work is one of the greatest character-building agencies in America, inasmuch as in meeting the actual life situations on the farm, in the home, school, or community, 4-H club work guides young people in making important and far-reaching decisions which give definite character training through the formation of good habits in thinking and acting. Germane and Germane pointed out in their 8-month study of the members of a typical Missouri 4-H baby-beef club, that the following positive character traits were developed and reported:

Self-reliance, industry, and responsibility in doing their own work.

Initiative and creative thinking in planning work and meeting obstacles.

Thrift, judgment, honesty, and accuracy in buying and selling animals and keeping records.

Patience, carefulness, vision, perseverance, and "stick-to-itiveness" in working on a long-time goal.

Cooperation and respect for others in showing own animals, in reaching club goals, and in seeing what others can do.

In recognition of these established facts, the Missouri Sunday School Council of Religious Education, Kirkwood, Mo., is suggesting that rural churches sponsor 4-H club work.

Another important study completed during 1935 was that made in Rock County, Wis.; Kossuth County, Iowa; and Goodhue County, Minn., by Mary E. Duthie of Cornell University under the fellowship grant of Thomas E. Wilson, of the National Committee on Boys' and Girls' Club Work, Chicago, and directed by Dr. J. H. Kolb, of the University of Wisconsin. Many benefits of 4-H club work to rural young people were noted in this study. The study also pointed out some of the apparent needs of young people and of the 4-H club organization, particularly in relation to methods of training local leaders.

Along with these completed studies, there were begun several studies on a national basis to determine (1) the influence of 4-H club work on the home, (2) the effect of 4-H club work on the lives of former club members, (3) the results of 4-H club work in terms of its objectives, (4) the needs of rural young people between the ages of 16 and 25. In addition, there were conducted many informal studies of different phases of 4-H club work on a county basis. It is believed that all these studies will prove of great benefit in the further development of 4-H club work.

1.--See Martin, T. T. Brief report of boys' and girls' 4-H club work in Missouri, 1935. Univ. Mo., Columbia.

RESULT DEMONSTRATIONS

In no year since the beginning of 4-H club work, was such a high quality of demonstration work noted throughout the United States. This was due in no small measure to the better supervisory methods developed and to the increase in the amount of literature prepared for both the 4-H club members and the local leaders. In addition, reports indicate that more effort was made to have the 4-H club demonstrations of increased value to the communities in which the club members lived. To accomplish this from both the standpoint of the club member and the influence on the community, the best supervisory methods determined were carefully followed; State, county and community plans for club work and programs for meetings were formulated with greater thought and precision; and definite goals of accomplishment were established by a larger number of organized clubs as well as by most members and leaders. Community analyses of club activities were organized on a progressive basis in order to maintain a continuous check on the club demonstrations under way. In addition, more individual help was given to local volunteer leaders in understanding their 4-H club members and in assisting them to conduct home and farm demonstrations that were of definite value in improvement of the rural conditions in their respective home communities.

Gardens, Orchards, and Yard Improvement

The 4-H garden and orchard club work played a prominent part in the nutrition extension program throughout the United States. Garden-club members

totaled 196,957, of whom 122,505 completed the work - a considerable increase over the preceding year. In addition, 15,977 were enrolled in the market-garden work. In all, nearly a million bushels of vegetables were produced, much of which were grown in accordance with a garden budget plan for the entire family. In a few States, 4-H club girls became interested in herb gardens. In the flower-garden work, including the beautification of the home grounds, there was a total enrollment of 73,508 members, of whom 45,511 completed the work. Of particular interest in this connection were the stories of 4-H club girls and boys who took entire charge of their home-yard improvement work and demonstrated in an outstanding way how to improve the soil for planting, select and transplant native trees and shrubbery, treat walks, drives, or fences, develop mass plantings, and screen unsightly buildings. Beautification of roadsides, village greens, and public grounds in general also received much attention by many 4-H clubs. Of much importance in providing ample fruit for the farm family, although relatively new, were the 4-H orchard-club demonstrations under way, in which much care was used in determining the number of fruit trees, bushes, and grapes necessary, from the standpoint of the nutritional needs of all members of the family. The orchard plans, once worked out, were conscientiously followed by all 4-H club members enrolled for such demonstrations. During 1935, there were 18,568 of these members, of whom 10,230 completed the work and reported having produced 86,933 bushels of fruit.

Most of the garden and orchard club work was conducted by 4-H members in relation to the nutritional needs of the family, yet in many instances considerable financial profit was realized. For example, Jack Tyree of

West Virginia in 2 years pushed his garden work to the top; the gross sales value of his products marketed exceeded \$700. His club leader states, "Such achievement for a farm boy who lives 10 miles from his market requires considerable planning, ingenuity of mind, and unfaltering industry. It calls for early maturing products, early rising, and early arrival at market."

Food Preservation and Preparation During 1935, an increased interest, with corresponding results, was noted in all phases of the 4-H food-club work, which ranks first of all 4-H result demonstrations in the members enrolled. The importance of food production in connection with the nutrition program gained greater recognition than ever before, due largely to the emphasis placed upon this relationship. The use of home-grown foods was widely stressed. Reports of the main demonstrations in 4-H food-club work follow:

Canning

As the result of continued emphasis placed on the canning budget and because of a better growing season, there was a considerable increase in the amount of canning done by 4-H club members throughout the United States. In all, 190,784 4-H club girls participated in the canning program. Of this number, 123,163 completed their demonstrations (fig. 1), having canned nearly 7-1/2 million jars of fruits, vegetables, and meats. Thousands of 4-H girls reported that they did the canning for their entire family, thus demonstrating that they have been enabled through their 4-H club work to share home responsibilities. Of particular interest were the 4,095,995 dishes prepared by club members from their canned products and the 1,758,744 meals planned and served as a result of their canning work. In addition, during 1935, 4-H club girls put up 1,220,069 jars of jelly and stored or dried 2,548,559 pounds of fruits and vegetables. Relative to the benefits derived from the 4-H canning-club work, the State club leader of Massachusetts writes: "Canning, in many clubs, has been an outstanding feature of the year's work. Every club member is required to make out a canning plan for her family at one of the club meetings, whether the family can successfully fill it or not, for by making the plan we have found that the girls get an idea of the savings which canning could make, and frequently the making of the budget one year has been the cause of planning a garden and canning the next year. One mother said that her daughter's 4-H canning work had been a blessing in their home, for the girl 'just seemed to understand better' how to proceed. This family canned by a budget this year for the first time, because of the girl's club work, and, as a result, her mother joined a home demonstration club; so now the ideal combination of mother and daughter working together may make the benefits of extension work more than doubled."

Meal Preparation

In the preparation of meals, 4-H club girls showed considerable interest, as was true also in their work in baking and preparation of school lunches. Outdoor cookery became popular in several States, particularly with the boys. In all phases of food selection and preparation there were enrolled 210,587 girls and boys, of whom 151,240 completed their work and reported having

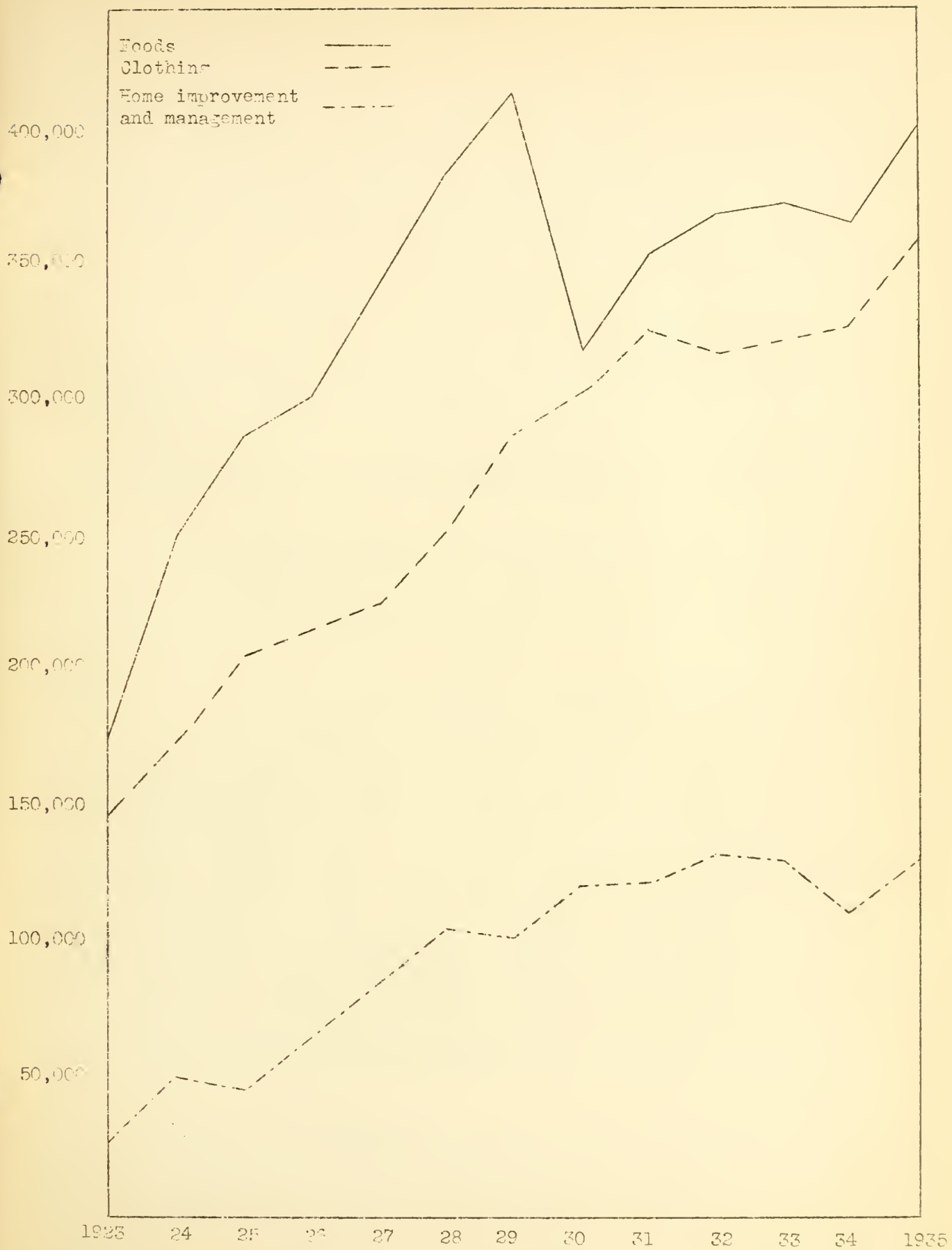


Figure 1.- 4-H homemaking-club demonstrations.

conducted demonstrations in the proper planning of meals in keeping with the nutritional needs of the family, the use of milk products, the use of native fruits and vegetables, as well as general food selection, preparation, and service. There was also a continuation of the emphasis on food in relation to health. In many States, all club members, both boys and girls, checked their food and health habits and gave special consideration to the care of their teeth and to good posture from the standpoint of food selection.

The following stories from Kansas are typical of what is being accomplished through the food-demonstration work:

"In our home Margaret and Virginia and I have taken supper-club work and have learned how to plan, prepare, and serve balanced meals. It has cut down sickness in our home. Our family is never a day without milk, which is a big help to a family of four growing children."

"Three girls in our community improved their health habits and encouraged their families to use more milk in the daily diet. Moreover, 10 girls of one 4-H club improved their posture noticeably in the past year."

"Because of the emphasis placed on good food and health habits, a baking-club member, Maxine Godwin, induced her parents to buy some cows so that the nine children could have milk in their diet. Now they have their own butter and cream. Previous to this time, two of the Godwin children were always sick. After they bought the cows and had milk to use this last year, the children improved quite rapidly."

Health In keeping with the general increase in enrollment, there was a corresponding increase in the number of 4-H club girls and boys engaged in the home health and sanitation programs. Of the 142,010 club members enrolled, 94,927 completed their work. In addition, there were 30,404 club boys and 104,478 club girls who participated in definite health-improvement work, although they were not members of special health clubs. These members for the most part, kept a check on their own food and health habits. There was continued emphasis on the value of health examinations, with the result that 85,971 club members either had health examinations as a part of their 4-H club activities or had them in connection with health contests in which they participated. The holding of dental clinics was reported in several States. Massachusetts, for the second year, conducted a "protect your smile" demonstration in which proper food and the care of teeth were emphasized. Similar slogans were evolved in other States in which good posture, care of the feet, good grooming, care of the hair, and other aspects of good health were signaled out for special attention and study. Characteristics of positive health were constantly stressed in all 4-H programs.

In Minnesota, in connection with the 4-H health-demonstration work, "personal safety" has been emphasized, because of the appalling increase in automobile accidents added to the many fatalities and injuries as the result of careless handling of home and farm equipment and machinery. In all, 28 counties conducted safety-demonstration contests. A few stories regarding

the work of these demonstrators follow:

Le Vonne Halvorson states: "I have learned to drive our automobile more carefully. I have prevented people from slipping on our rugs by pasting strips of rubber and oilcloth on the under side; repaired steps on the back porch; and labeled bottles of poison and put them in a safe place. I have encouraged nine members of our club to write 'safety' stories, and have given several safety demonstrations at our 4-H club meetings, at the county fair, and at the State fair. I have won a life-saving badge for saving a 10-year-old boy from probable drowning."

Norma Johnson of Lowry reports: "Persuaded Dad to buy rubber, nonskid pads for basement steps. We bought a fire extinguisher to hang in a handy place to use in case of fire, and a serious fire was prevented. I bought a rubber mat for the bathtub. Helped to take a 'safety test' in our 4-H club. Have learned to drive an automobile more carefully with lights and brakes tested. Have learned first aid, which I have used several times. Led a discussion on 'safety' at a 4-H meeting.

Dean Harris of Dakota County writes: "I have checked electrical wiring in our house; found a safe place for broken glass, old tin cans, etc.; repaired steps and loose boards, and sanded icy walks; acted on safety committee in our 4-H club; warned against setting useless fires; found a safe place for pitchforks and other tools in the barn, and acted as lifeguard at camp."

Clothing A very gratifying increase occurred in both the number of clothing demonstrations and the amount of work done (fig. 1).

In all, 360,600 rural girls took part in the 4-H clothing-club program. Of this number, 249,243 completed their work and reported having made 283,149 dresses in addition to a large number of undergarments, clothing accessories, and other articles. Also, 28,986 club girls made garments for their younger brothers or sisters. As usual, the clothing-club work proved the most popular feature of 4-H club work in 1935, being excelled only by the food-club work when considered as a combination of the canning, meal-preparation, and baking phases of the work. Increasing emphasis was placed on the use of a practical clothing budget for the rural girl. In all there were 54,585 club girls who kept throughout the year clothing accounts while 24,728 budgeted their clothing expenditures.

Other phases of clothing-club work demonstrated by 4-H club girls included garment construction, the selection and purchase of materials and of ready-made garments, the construction of children's garments, and the care, repair, and remaking of garments on hand. Shopping tours to develop good "buymanship" practices were encouraged. Color clinics to help girls to make harmonious color selections became popular in several States. Dress revues on a county and State basis increased in number and in quality, particularly from an educational standpoint. Illustrative material for the use of local leaders became more general. The value of judging work for both club meetings and at State events became better understood. In addition, practices in thrift became more common, and more interest was developed in making garments and other articles of clothing from feed and sugar bags. It has been

estimated that there was a saving of \$521,370, due to the thrift practices demonstrated in the 4-H clothing-club program during 1935. The girls' State club leader of Illinois, reports that in 1935, 4-H girls darned 22,000 pairs of hose, made 26,000 garments, and mended 17,000 other garments. A fair idea of the trends in clothing-club work is given in the following reports:

Katherine O'Connell, of North Dakota writes: "My club has taught me to be more broad-minded, more resourceful, and more self-confident. It has taught me to meet and overcome difficulties, the value of economy, and the appreciation of the better things in life. For the past 3 years I have kept a budget. It was a revelation to me how much my clothing really cost my parents. By keeping a budget, I became interested in keeping my clothing cost down by the proper care and repair of my clothes. I am now beginning to realize what proper choice of clothes really means!"

Amanda Skrede, also of North Dakota, says: "4-H club work has benefited our entire family. Mother no longer has to prepare all our meals, do all the baking, canning, mending, and sewing. I have made almost all my clothes and some for others in the family for the past year and a half. Dad no longer has to spend big sums of money for my wardrobe. I can make my clothes at less expense and have also learned to take better care of them."

Home Improvement 4-H club demonstrations having to do with a part or the whole of the farm home have increased considerably within the last few years. In 1935, 97,640 club members were enrolled in the home-furnishings program. Of this number, 59,612 completed their demonstrations and reported having improved 39,584 rooms and made 262,869 articles or furnishings. Reports for 1935 contain challenging stories of the many 4-H demonstrations conducted (fig. 1), involving the arrangement and selection of furniture, the selection of wall and floor coverings, the making and care of bedding, the refinishing of walls and floors, the renovation of furniture, the purchase of materials, the making of household furnishings, and the daily care of the home.

In Massachusetts, special emphasis was placed on the "cheery kitchen, the friendly dining room, the family living room, and my own room." A typical 4-H club story in room-improvement work follows:

"The improvements which I made included dyeing curtains, making a dressing table, painting the radiator, reversing window shades, making a shelf in the window for potted plants, refinishing and waxing floors, refinishing a walnut table and chairs, making a blotter for my desk, lengthening a cord for my bed lamp, and putting glass floor protectors under heavy pieces of furniture. As a result of my interest in 4-H club work we have improved our whole house. Five rooms were papered; seven floors were refinished; wall, woodwork, and floor of dining room were painted; four pieces of furniture for the porches were also dressed up in a new coat of paint. My family has gained a great deal of benefit and pleasure from my contacts with the 4-H club and appreciate all that it is meaning to me."

Home Management In the home-management club work under way, there were 34,214 boys and girls enrolled, of whom 21,175 completed their work and reported having conducted demonstrations in keeping home accounts for the family, in assisting in developing home industries as a means of supplementing the farm income, in selecting or making home equipment, in rearranging or improving the kitchen from the standpoint of convenience, and in sharing in home responsibilities involving the management and care of the home, often as a result of family counseling (fig. 1). Many girls because of what they had learned in their 4-H club work were able in 1935 to take care of their homes while their mothers went to town, to a farm women's camp, or to Farmers' Week at the State college.

Of much satisfaction was the large increase in the 24,813 club members' keeping personal accounts, being an increase of more than 45 percent over the preceding year. Moreover, these personal accounts were often accompanied by bank savings accounts. The uses made of the money saved during preceding years reveal the large numbers of 4-H club members who are in college or have started farming for themselves. In Utah, during 1935, 4-H club girls in the keeping of their accounts, discussed the following:

"How can I improve my personal appearance through wise spending?

How can I dress attractively and more economically through the use of a personal budget?

How can I add to my personal budget by assisting with the family food supply?

What are my responsibilities in helping to clothe the family?

What information has my club experience given me that would add comfort and convenience to our home? How?

What ideals for education, business, a home of my own, recreation and travel have I built for the future?

What is an investment? How can I save to achieve my ideals?

What is the value of keeping accounts if I am not earning?"

Child Development Perhaps no phase of 4-H club work has done more to strengthen the whole 4-H club program than that concerned with child development and parent education.

Not only have rural young people participated in this 4-H club demonstration from the standpoint of learning how to care for younger brothers and sisters and thus to develop an appreciation of what is involved in the physical improvement of young children, but they have also acquired through this work a deeper appreciation of what their parents are trying to do for them. Moreover, they have learned to share responsibilities and to become real partners with their fathers and mothers. During 1935, nearly 3,000 girls were enrolled in this rather new phase of the 4-H club program. Of this

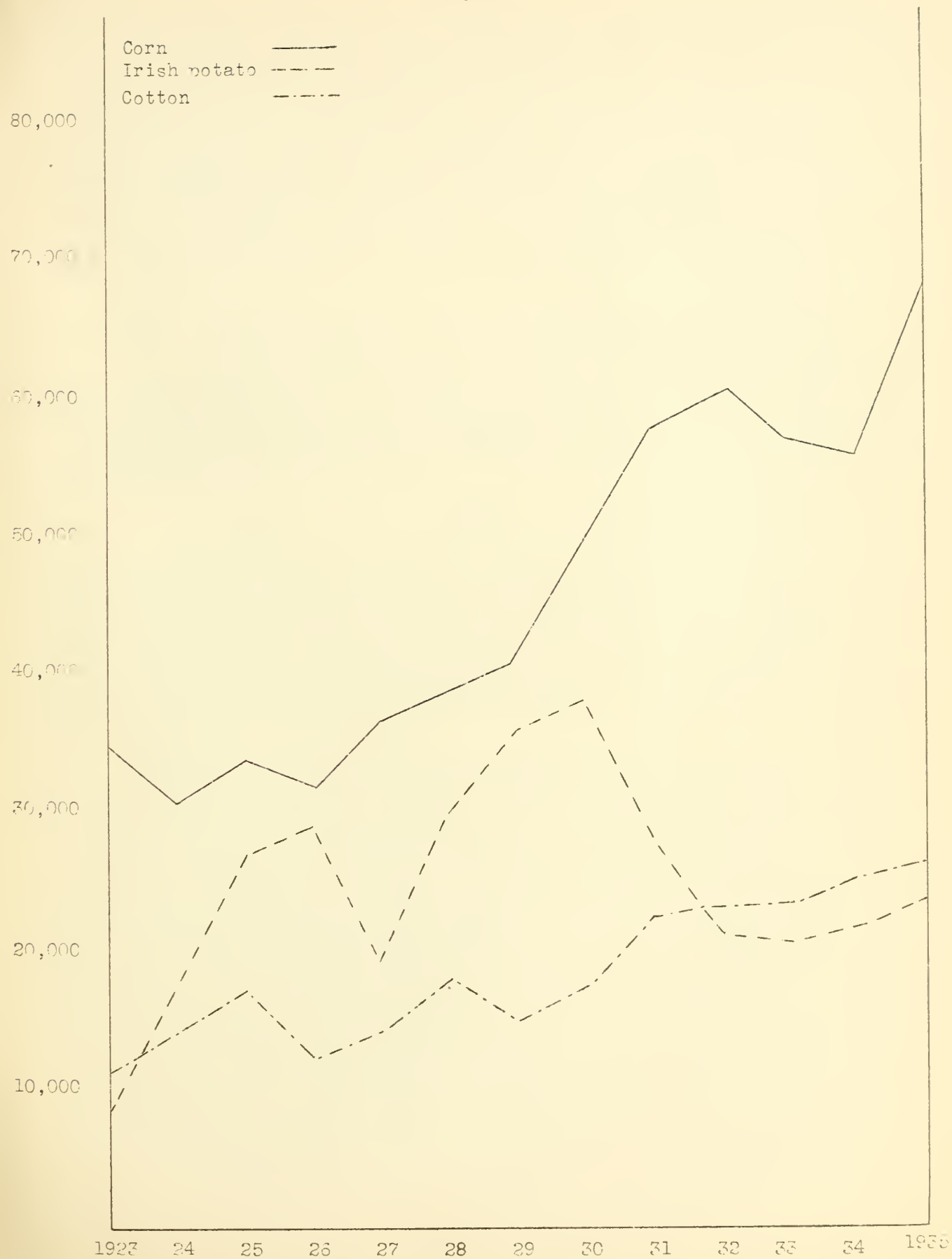


Figure 2.- Major 4-H crop-club demonstrations.

number, over 2,300 completed their demonstration work and reported many interesting stories of how they had made self-help garments for their younger brothers and sisters; assisted them in learning to eat those foods most needed from a dietary standpoint; made toys that were practical and useful from an educational standpoint; rearranged and adjusted furnishings in children's rooms so that each child might help himself more effectively; learned suitable stories and how to tell them to children; and helped with the all-round development of some child, particularly from the standpoint of improving his habits and attitudes. In addition, nearly 12,000 4-H club members participated in some definite child-development work along with their other demonstration work.

Farm Crops The part played by 4-H club boys and girls in the county extension program in demonstrating better seed selection and crop cultivation (fig. 2) received marked attention during 1935. For many years it has been realized that 4-H club members are wielding considerable influence in the home community in promoting the growing of those varieties best adapted to local conditions, in centering attention on the advantage of having a single variety grown, and in saving and distributing good seed.

Corn

4-H corn-club reports show that more members, as well as a much larger percentage, completed the work than in preceding year. In all, 77,173 acres were cultivated and 2,175,098 bushels of produce was grown by the 44,790 completing their demonstrations. Owing to the increase in price, there was also a considerable increase in the value of the corn produced. Demonstrations were conducted in seed selection, seed storing, seed testing, and cultivation. Much interest in Illinois was manifested in the results attained with hybrid seed by club members.

Typical of what may be accomplished through 4-H corn-club work is the story of Herbert Schmiede of Michigan. "Herbert has been in club work for 2 years, and last year was mentioned on the State honor roll. Through his efforts, his club was reorganized with 6 new members, bringing the club to a total enrollment of 10. In 1935 he was secretary of his club and also carried on a fertilizer experiment in connection with his corn-club work. He took an active part in the demonstrations, and with one of his club members made the trip to the Michigan State Fair to demonstrate there. Herbert is also a very good crops judge and participated in several contests throughout the season. His record shows that he had 9 acres of corn planted this year and that the fertilizer used was very effective in increasing his production. His profit during the past season was \$232.80. Because of his outstanding work, Herbert won the scholarship offered by the State board of agriculture. He also reports that he personally purchased his own seed corn direct from a corn-club member and harvested the highest yields in his experience this past season. A considerable part of the seed corn planted in two townships traces back to the 4-H club work in his county."

Cotton

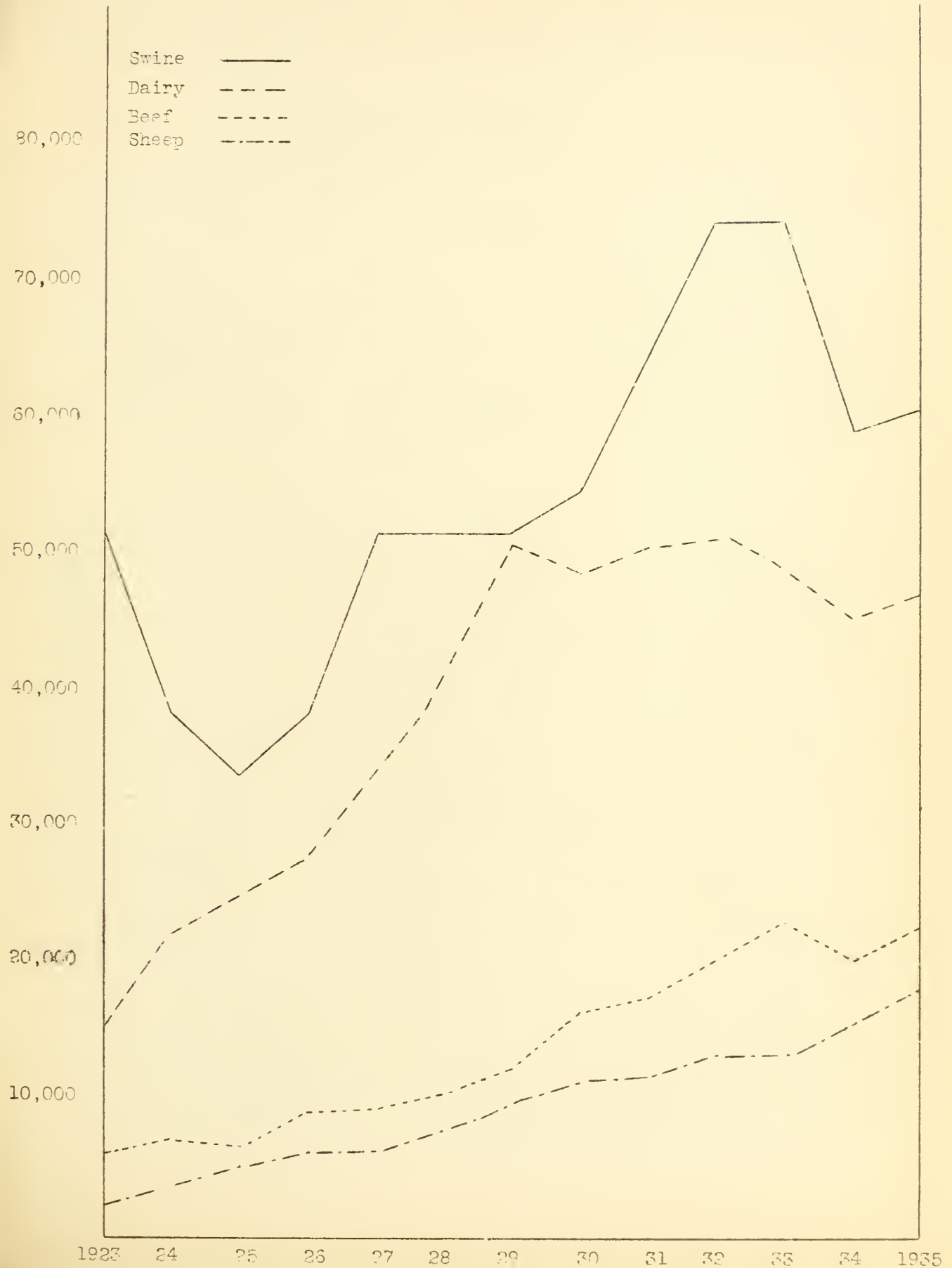
Along with the increase in corn-club work, there was also an increase in cotton-club work. In all, 23,616 club members were enrolled. Of this number, 13,146 completed their cotton demonstration work and reported having raised 11,281,479 pounds or 22,563 bales on 16,582 acres. In this work, 4-H club boys demonstrated the use of good fertilizer, insect-control methods, and disease-control methods. In many instances cotton-club members demonstrated good marketing practices as well as the use of timely economic information.

Potatoes

Potato-club demonstration work in 1935 showed a satisfactory improvement over that of the preceding year. In all there were enrolled in the Irish-potato work, 26,459, of whom 19,030 completed their demonstrations and reported having raised 844,206 bushels on 8,896 acres. Those raising sweet-potatoes reported 408,554 bushels on 3,340 acres. The demonstrations in the potato-club work were similar to those of preceding years, featuring for the most part standard varieties of seed, treatment of seed for disease, thorough spraying, hill selection, proper use of fertilizers, and grading for market. In several States there was continued cooperation with business organizations of nearby cities. In La Porte, Ind., 1935 marked the eleventh year that the Kiwanis Club has sponsored the 4-H potato club in La Porte County. In 1935, there were 74 boys who were members of the club. During the 11-year period, 1925-35, inclusive, 633 boys took part in this cooperative project. Each first-year boy is sponsored by an individual Kiwanian, who furnishes 2 bushels of the 4 bushels of certified seed which the club boy receives. In the fall the club boy repays his Kiwanian sponsor by returning 3 bushels of selected eating potatoes to him. A total of 2,701 bushels of certified seed has been provided club members during this 11-year period. This year the 31 first-year members received 124 bushels of certified seed. Of the 74 boys enrolled in the project this year, 61 will complete their work. These 61 boys grew, on 18-1/2 acres, 2,300.5 bushels of potatoes with an average yield of 124.3 bushels per acre. The high yield at the rate of 455.9 bushels per acre was produced by Robert Burdine of Galena township. Ten boys succeeded in producing yields which exceeded 160 bushels per acre. This project has had a very definite influence upon the potato-growing practices of La Porte County farmers. The use of certified seed stock and effective control of insect pests through spray programs have increased materially. The exhibits of high-quality potatoes grown by the boys have served to make the public aware of the fact that desirable potatoes are being grown by La Porte County farmers.

Other Crops

Splendid demonstration results in crop work were attained also with grain sorghums and peanuts. In addition, farm young people during 1935 conducted demonstrations in the growing of wheat, oats, barley, peas, soybeans, velvetbeans, clovers, pastures, and sugar beets, as well as of other crops, depending on local farming conditions and needs. It should be noted that this large range in crop production is indicative of the increasing



flexibility of program making common to 4-H club work. As a result, young people are taking a live interest in their own communities, and are conducting demonstrations along with the adult farmers in those activities of most concern to the community.

Livestock Considerable gains were noted in the major lines of livestock-club work due largely to the increased personnel and the better economic conditions in the livestock industry as well as to the impetus given livestock-club work by breeders, bankers, and business men who have manifested particular interest in such work through lending money, by offering substantial prizes for quality work, and in supporting the work generally. During 1935, reports indicate that the demonstrations are becoming larger in scope (fig. 3) and that the farm young people participating are thinking increasingly in terms of herds and family flocks. The chief demonstrations continued to be those concerned with the introduction of better stock, feeding, management, and marketing. As in years past, the livestock-club work during 1935 was considerably reinforced by club tours to the homes of the members and to modern stock farms, by public demonstration-team work, by exhibits at community, county, and State fairs, by judging work, and by the better methods of conduct and supervision.

Dairy

During 1935, 47,019 farm boys and girls conducted dairy-club demonstrations. Of this number, 34,356 completed their work and reported having managed or raised 43,231 dairy animals. The dairy-club demonstrations conducted throughout the country vary considerably, depending on the problems of the areas involved. In some sections of the country, the introduction of purebred stock has been retarded largely because of poor economic conditions. However, reports show that 4-H club work is doing much toward making way for the purebred or high-grade dairy herd. Club judging contests, the use of records kept, community exhibits, and club tours to high-class dairy farms are contributing much in solving local dairy problems. In areas where there is an insufficient number of milk cows to supply the family needs of milk, cream, and butter, demonstrations by club members have been effective in calling attention to the necessity of milk in the diet of children especially. As a result a large number of milk cows have been placed on farms that had none before. The importance of cheese in the diet, and the importance of sanitation in the handling of milk are constantly being stressed, particularly in some sections of the country.

Typical of 4-H dairy-club work are the demonstrations being conducted in Chambers County, Ala. The county agent reports that in the last 6 years the purchase and successful raising of excellent calves by club members have encouraged their fathers and other farmers to improve their dairy herds. One result of this stimulation has been the sale of between \$50,000 and \$75,000 worth of purebred cattle by the farmers and 4-H club members each year. Another accomplishment credited to 4-H club work in this county is that farmers and boys alike know more about the qualifications of a good dairy animal than ever before. This educational work has been brought about by an annual county-wide calf show. The judges go over the animals, pointing out the good and

poor points of each individual. At the completion of the county show, a number of animals are selected to be sent to the State fairs to compete for prizes. They are exhibited in the name of the county association. In addition to being a good advertisement for the quality of Chambers County dairy stock, to date \$3,471 in prizes has been returned to the exhibitors.

Beef

During 1935, there was a satisfactory increase in the number of baby-beef-club demonstrations conducted, due largely to the good prices being paid for livestock along with relatively low prices for feed. In all, 22,473 club members were enrolled, of whom 16,483 reported having demonstrated the managing of 21,253 animals. The club demonstrations, in keeping with the long-time extension program, emphasized the selection of right individuals, the use of purebred sires in improving stock, the use of silage as an economic winter feed, proper housing, and the use of concentrates. Proper fitting and showing of beef animals, as well as preparation for market in keeping with market demands, also were emphasized.

From the standpoint of method, the State club leader of Oregon reports: "Most of the 4-H members feeding out baby beeves did not have scales available. The necessity for the members' having regular weights in order to determine rate of gain, and cost per pound on their calves prompted a general request for scales. The agricultural engineering department designed and constructed a two-wheel trailer with platform scales built into it. A Portland hotel financed the project and presented the trailer-scales outfit to 4-H club work of the State. During the year the scales were transported 10,000 miles and weighed over 1,200 animals. They were on a regular monthly circuit of nine counties in eastern Oregon."

From the standpoint of results of baby-beef-club work, the county extension agent of Clinton County, Ohio, reports that the club members in his county have produced 176 tons of choice beef on the hoof in the last 4 years. Moreover, these feeder-calf activities have so interested club members that although many of them have reached the club age limit, they are planning to continue, and have organized the Hoof and Horn Club. Altogether 515 high-quality beef calves have been managed by Clinton County young people since the original club was organized in 1932. Moreover, the county agent reports that not a single member has failed to meet his loan and interest payment in full, and on the date of maturity. Methods of training and grooming the calves, as well as beef-cattle judging were taught and demonstrated by club members during a series of tours conducted during the summer months.

Swine

After a decided decrease in swine-club work during 1934, due largely to the drought, the increase in 4-H swine club demonstrations during 1935 was encouraging. Of the 60,880 farm boys and girls enrolled, 37,434 successfully completed their work and reported having raised or managed 81,870 animals. The principal demonstrations conducted included the raising of purebred stock, pasturage with grain, use of protein supplements, proper housing and fencing,

sanitation and disease prevention, use of self-feeders, marketing, and the home killing and curing of pork. The reports for 1935 give excellent accounts of the swine-club demonstrations conducted throughout the United States. In Utah, the slogan "From pig to family larder" became popular in the "home production of meat" demonstrations. Similarly in Washington, were the "pig for pork" demonstrations, in which a 4-H club member raised one or more pigs for family use. Method demonstrations were conducted throughout the State in killing, cutting, and curing of pork, the members doing the work.

Sheep

A steady increase in the sheep-club work was evident during 1935, resulting in the largest enrollment yet attained in this phase of livestock-club work. The number of farm boys and girls enrolled as demonstrators in sheep-club work totaled 18,001, of whom 13,850 reported having raised 38,567 sheep. Demonstrations conducted were practically the same as those in former years, the emphasis, for the most part, being placed on the use of purebred rams, culling flocks before the breeding season, winter care and management, improved housing and equipment, and the use of forage. A few demonstrations were conducted, as in former years, in the grading of wool for market. Sheep sheering, in some States, was also emphasized. In this connection, the story of Clifford Gildner of Michigan is typical of the work being done. "I rigged up a gas-engine outfit and sheared sheep this spring around our county. I enjoyed the work, the farmers got more wool, and the wool graded better. I was able to make some extra money at the time of year when we were not very busy at home."

From the standpoint of general sheep-club work, the story of Carl Yeuter, also of Michigan, is of interest. "Carl enrolled in 4-H sheep-club work when he was 10 years old. This is his last year as a 4-H club member because he has reached the maximum age of 21. He has been a consistent club member, and has gradually built up his flock until early in 1935 it consisted of 45 purebred Shropshire aged ewes, 3 yearling ewes, and 8 bucks. The sheep were dipped the last of May in a community dipping tank built at Carl's place. They also were drenched three times during the summer. Carl's inventory on the value of sheep on hand last fall was \$1,163; besides, he sold \$109.20 worth of wool and \$35 worth of sheep during the year."

Poultry

Topping all the livestock club work for 1935 is that of poultry, with an enrollment of 104,884 club demonstrators, of whom 67,074 completed their work and reported having raised or managed 2,626,393 birds. In addition, thousands of dozens of eggs were produced and sold; a large number of flocks were culled; an equally large number of poultry houses and a large number of self-feeders, egg carriers, and other equipment common to the poultry business were built or remodeled. It was encouraging to note the steady increase in the size of the poultry demonstrations involving increased responsibility and respect. A fair idea of the type of poultry club demonstrations being conducted in many sections of the country may be gained from the following excerpt from the West Virginia State club leaders' reports: "Junior Clohan, of

Morgan County, finished his second year in poultry work, his hens netting him \$1,50 per bird. With more than 200 hens, this makes a handsome profit for a 14-year old boy. Likewise, it proves the possibility of success with a small poultry flock."

Conservation of Natural Resources The year 1935 marked another high point in the 4-H conservation program which has developed in an outstanding way in the last few years due largely to the general interest in conservation throughout the United States and to the backing of businessmen, particularly interested in this phase of 4-H club work.

In the forestry program alone there were enrolled 14,830 rural young people, of whom 11,516 completed their demonstrations and reported having participated in a large number of useful activities, such as growing seedlings, planting, thinning, cutting trails, and doing fire-prevention work. Three years ago the 4-H clubs of New York State announced on the eighth anniversary of their forestry work that six and a half million trees had been planted on idle acres by club members, and this work has been continuing each year since. New Hampshire 4-H club members planted 206,109 trees on 200 acres of waste land in their State during 1935 in their forestry-planting demonstrations. This surpassed the plantings of the previous year when 197,690 trees were set. Worn-out and abandoned fields, steep slopes, and unused farm corners made up the area and will produce eventually timber for farm use. 4-H club boys and girls in Tennessee, North Carolina, and several other States have been planting black locusts and black walnuts. Black locusts, being in the legume group, do double duty, helping also in the soil conservation program by checking gullying and increasing the nitrogen content of the soil. Some of the 4-H foresters have added to their program the protection of woodlands and forests from fire. Fairfield County, Conn., has been one of the prominent pioneers in this work. "The first Fairfield County club began, as do most, with hardwood thinning. The father of two of the club members gave them the freedom of his wood lot. The boys learned how to use and care for the axe and saw, became familiar with the valuable native species, and gained some experience from their work. The second year they had plane-table surveying, elementary forest mensuration, and records on tree growth in thinned and unthinned areas. The older boys became interested in fire fighting and followed a program of fire-control methods, trail and firebreak cutting, and fire fighting under the local warden."

Wyoming 4-H clubs participated in a new activity during 1935 known as wildlife conservation. It is not a separate project, but an activity in which all club members may work either as individuals or in groups. They reported studying the wildlife resources of their localities and engaging in actual protection, restoration, or propagation of some form of wildlife.

The 18,000 Kansas 4-H club members did a special piece of conservation work during 1935. The phases to choose from were varied, and included protection or development of certain varieties of flowers, trees, shrubs, birds, or animals, conservation of soil and water, prevention of fires or accidents, preservation and repair of farm buildings, and machinery and similar subjects.

Conservation of wildlife was carried on in 1935 in a number of States by 4-H clubs. In some States, as in Minnesota, it was a general activity which members doing other work added to their club undertaking. In other States, it was a separate piece of work. Massachusetts' 4-H work in conservation, called the four F's -- furs, feathers, fins, and forests, is a well-known example.

The soil on the home farm, what different crops and fertilizers do to it, how best to keep it at home, -- these are problems 4-H club members have been led to consider ever since the work started. Early club boys made their reputations on diversified farming, demonstrating what their soil could do with desirable crops when managed rightly. Today their demonstration crops for soil improvement include alfalfa, sweetclover and other clovers, vetch, lespedeza, soybeans, cowpeas, velvetbeans, and other legumes coming into popularity. At Missouri 4-H camps in recent summers, the members brought samples of soils from the various fields of their home farms and were taught in camp how to test them for lime and phosphate requirements. Terracing, in a number of States, has been one of the soil-conserving projects for 4-H club members for some years. In Oklahoma, one of the States with a long record in this work, 4-H club members regularly demonstrate measuring slopes and running terrace lines, testing and adjusting the farm level. They may work out special field problems, or run a profile for a drainage ditch line. Recently they have helped to locate and lay out farm ponds. Last year 628 Oklahoma club members ran terrace lines on 27,685 acres.

Other Result Demonstrations	During 1935, a large increase was noted in the handicraft, "fix-it" or farm shop work due largely to adjusting the 4-H club program to the present economic situation and encouraging rural young people to make those things that are most needed in the farm home or on the farm. Altogether, 44,396 rural girls and boys were enrolled for such demonstrations. Of this number, 31,637 completed their work and reported having made over a hundred thousand useful articles.
--------------------------------	--

In the farm-management demonstrations, 7,761 young men and women were enrolled. Of this number, 4,405 completed their demonstrations and reported having kept farm accounts. In individual farm planning, 237 young men completed their demonstration work. The State club leader of New York reports that among the phases of farm-management work of particular interest to 4-H members were the following: "How to do business at a bank; how to record legal papers; how to take a farm inventory and make a credit statement; how to get and use credit; how to make a map of the home farm; and how to handle farm legal affairs."

In addition to the terracing work, often considered as a part of the soil-conservation program, several other phases of agricultural engineering work were undertaken by 4-H club members such as woodworking, gas-engine operation, and surveying. In all, 13,909 young men participated in this program. Of this number, 8,730 completed their demonstration work and reported many interesting stories of this rather new 4-H club activity.

In the last few years, increasing attention has been given to the raising of horses and mules. In several States, the colt demonstration has become quite popular. As a result, in 1935 there were enrolled 5,615 members, of whom 4,120 completed their demonstrations and reported having raised 3,861 animals - a considerable increase over that of the previous year.

One of the most interesting new developments in 4-H club work was the leather-tanning demonstrations in Texas. Many 4-H club boys there ride on saddles of their own making, having produced the leather for the saddles from their own cows. Texas 4-H club boys in addition to making saddles, in 1935 reported having made reins and dozens of other leather articles from their home-grown and home-tanned leather.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

In 4-H club work, it is believed important that, in keeping with a democratic government, there be developed among young people constructive group action and group control. In this country young people should, as early as possible, gain the habit of acting in groups that function along democratic lines - learning to work with others, giving of their best thought to the making of group decisions, conquering selfish interest when to do so is for the good of the group, and, finally, learning how to give in to the will of the majority. Henry A. Wallace, at the 1935 National 4-H Club Camp, said, "Individual skill is not enough, for we no longer live in an individualistic world. To attain our highest destiny, we must also learn to work together toward a common goal. You will find many opportunities to practice this cooperation in your clubs and in your everyday life. In working out these human relationships in your own club, in your own community, and in whatever organization you may find yourself, you will find a great pleasure. And together we are going to work out an agriculture in this country which will make us all much happier than we have been in the past." In this connection a local club leader of Wisconsin writes: "Oddly enough, perhaps the greatest contribution our 4-H club has made to us is that it serves as a general social medium for the entire community. Our club meetings have brought together many families that have become more than casual acquaintances. They have grown to understand and enjoy each other in a friendly way rather infrequently found."

Among group activities in 4-H club work that aid young people in learning how to work with others to the end that all may have maximum benefit, are the 4-H demonstration- and judging-team work; special 4-H club festivities; work in music appreciation and dramatics; 4-H club tours and hikes; 4-H club camps; special 4-H club ceremonies; 4-H club exhibits at community, county, State, and often inter-State, events; and 4-H club achievement days. These 4-H activities moreover, stimulate and maintain interest, raise standards of work, and aid in attaining the all-round development of rural young people.

Demonstration
Teamwork

The team demonstration is becoming an increasingly important part of 4-H club work. Reports indicate that team-demonstration work gives young people an added incentive to develop skill. It gives them confidence in themselves

so that they are able to make an explanation or plead a cause in a clear, telling manner. It develops initiative and inspires interest. Moreover, as a teaching method, it is being recognized for its value in acquiring factual information. Although the value of the demonstration to the club member has been found to be worthy of first consideration, team-demonstration work by club members is one of the best ways of interesting adults in 4-H club work. Many people see no club work other than the exhibit and the demonstration. Public demonstrations give them some idea of the work accomplished. Adults often are drawn to such demonstrations because of the boys and girls, but usually go away as exponents of the practice taught. In this way, boys and girls, through organized club effort, become a powerful factor in carrying out the community program of work and spreading the influence of the demonstration in the home community. Reports indicate also that team-demonstration work encourages a club spirit and cooperation, especially when teams are competing in contests. During 1935, nearly 2,000 county extension agents trained 41,922 such demonstration teams that influenced the spread of better practices in their own and nearby communities.

Judging Work

An important part of the program of every club in raising standards of work is that concerned with the judging of the finished products of the demonstrations under way. According to the reports, 27,257 judging teams of club members were taught to determine how nearly the livestock or objects judged met a standard as set up in score cards. In the livestock- and crop-club activities, judging plays an important part in learning to select livestock or seed for the farm. In the homemaking activities, the judging work during 1935 was concerned primarily in judging jars of fruits or vegetables canned, food prepared, or garments made. Reports indicate also that much good has resulted in having club members judge the finished products at the completion of each piece of work. Thereby attention is focused on those phases that need strengthening as the work progresses. Thus the judging work has been found to play an important part in stimulating and maintaining high standards throughout the club year.

Music-Appreciation and Radio Work

In nearly every State during 1935, as a part of the 4-H club program, there was some work in music appreciation. In this, the radio played an important part. By means of the national and State radio programs, rural young people were brought in touch with the music of the best composers. In addition, through 4-H club choruses, bands, and orchestras, rural young people were given added opportunity to develop a genuine appreciation of good music. In several States the music-appreciation program included the dramatization of the songs discussed in the music-appreciation hour over the radio.

In Iowa, the 4-H music-appreciation program was climaxed during the annual Girls 4-H Club Convention in June, when a cast of men, women, and 4-H club boys and girls from 47 counties presented an adaptation of the opera The Bohemian Girl, which had been studied during the year. Moreover, in 1935 the opera was presented by groups in 100 4-H county and rally days as well as other county and township events, and did much to make all the people of Iowa conscious of the meaning of good music, particularly good opera music.

Moreover, the publicity given this work throughout the country did much to strengthen the whole 4-H club program and to make people in general conscious of its cultural aspects.

The radio, in addition, to furthering the music-appreciation program, contributed much to acquainting club members and local leaders, as well as the general public, with many phases of the 4-H club program that would have been difficult to obtain otherwise. In Montana in 1935, all 4-H clubs were organized in keeping with the broadcasts from the State office.

Dramatics and Pageants Each year in many State programs, dramatics have had an important place. Reports indicate that State tournaments in dramatics are increasing. In 1935, countless simple plays, based on agricultural and homemaking practices, were developed by club members themselves. Often club members developed other types of plays, selecting their own parts. In this way, rural young people have been afforded through 4-H club work another opportunity to express their own innermost desires and interests in a challenging, creative way.

It has been found that pageants if well conducted arouse much enthusiasm among club members, encourage creative thinking, and enkindle the interest of thinking men and women of the community. Those which proved most successful in 1935 were developed around one central idea, and were planned most carefully as to desirable location, equipment, signs, costumes, and other necessary phases to be considered.

Tours and Nature Hikes For many years, 4-H club tours have had an important place in the club program. By means of the tour, club members have been enabled to compare their work with that of other club members and to gain, thereby, helpful ideas. In 1935, nearly 6,000 such 4-H club tours were conducted involving 1,855,987 young people and parents. Tours also were made during 1935, usually on some outstanding farm. The farms and homes of master farmers and homemakers were often visited. During 1935, an increased number of educational trips to more distant points were made as rewards for outstanding work and as a means of broadening the outlook of rural young people.

In addition, there were conducted a large number of 4-H nature-club hikes through which rural young people are developing, as never before, an appreciation of their own surroundings and of country life in general. Reports indicate that through these nature hikes, young people are learning to love birds and animals and to understand their connection with agriculture. Moreover, the eyes of these rural young people are being opened to the wealth of beauty and interest in wild flowers, trees, and shrubs of their own areas. It has been found also that from these 4-H nature-club hikes, many other activities related to the conservation of wildlife are being emphasized such as the development of nature trails, not only on permanent camp sites and parkways but also on individual farms.

Camps In 1935, nearly 2,000 4-H club camps were held with a total attendance of 149,534 young people. In addition, extension agents reported the holding of many 1-day and overnight camps which have become distinctly popular in several States. Of particular interest was the formulation of minimum standards in relation to all 4-H club camps in some States. These standards involved checks on program, location, food, sanitation, insurance, medical assistance, and lifesaving facilities. Extension agents, according to the reports, believe that 4-H camps in 1935, more than at any time in the past, emphasized cooperation, stimulated renewed interest in 4-H club activities, gave opportunity for special training in subject matter, and trained in recreation. They also provided an opportunity for health work, not only through outdoor sports and supervised recreation but through training in health habits. But perhaps, most important of all, leaders of 4-H club camps during 1935 made a special effort to broaden the horizons of rural young people and give to them a glimpse of those things in rural life difficult to obtain through their regular 4-H club work. Reports indicate that the council circles, campfires, vespers, nature trails, and, particularly at the close of each camp, the candle-lighting ceremony, did much to bring to 4-H club members a sense of the great human values - the intangibles, and enable each of them to return home with higher ideals and loftier purposes. Only the finest, the most inspirational activities were encouraged. Leaders sought to select songs that inspire, stories with fun and action that elevate, and activities that present situations which will develop those attitudes that make for right living.

More counties than ever before secured camp sites and others set up temporary camps in some favored spot, in order that their 4-H club members might have the privileges of camp life. Splendid reports along these lines were obtained, particularly in securing permanent camp sites, from California, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Louisiana, Massachusetts, South Carolina, and West Virginia. In 1935, at least 20 States held 4-H conservation camps in which conservation of wildlife was emphasized.

The National 4-H Club Camp was held as usual in Washington to enable representative rural young people from each State to become better acquainted with the research work of the Federal Department of Agriculture and the service which it renders; to be given an opportunity to study their Federal Government at first hand; and to make it possible for these leading young people to discuss together suggestions for increasing the scope of extension work with the girls and boys throughout the country. In 1935, every club delegate left the national camp with a deeper appreciation of his own United States of America and what a salute to his own flag really means. In 1935, the theme for the National Club Camp was "service", and it was felt that every young person in attendance went back to his or her own home with a deeper understanding of what service to others really means from the standpoint of the responsibilities involved, the opportunities afforded, and the awards that may follow.

Special 4-H Club Days and Ceremonies In several States, during 1935, there was a 4-H Planning Day, when the 4-H club members of a county planned their program for the year. In this way, the attention of the whole county was focused on 4-H club work, and club members, in turn, recognized anew its importance and the seriousness of planning a sound program of activities to be carried on during the year.

Club festivals and similar events such as club rallies, picnics, and field days also considerably increased the interest in club work during 1935, and were considered a socializing factor in community development.

In 4-H club work, several ceremonies during the last several years have been introduced which have proved successful in emphasizing the finer things of life. According to the reports, in some States, when young people join a club an initiation takes place. This initiation ceremony emphasizes the ideals of the 4-H club program and the responsibility to be assumed by the members. The 4-H club pledge, the club motto, and the club slogans, as Miss Mary E. Duthie indicated in her study², play an important part in rendering wholesome, constructive satisfactions in connection with the 4-H club work under way.

Another ceremony which was adopted more extensively in 1935 was that in connection with the installation of club officers after their election. This ceremony calls attention to the duties of the newly elected officers and the responsibilities involved. During 1935, the candle-lighting ceremony was more widely used than ever before, and did much to emphasize at the close of the county or State 4-H camp, the ideals that should be constantly in the minds of 4-H club members from the standpoint of their club activities and their own personal development.

Exhibits and Fairs The club exhibit is a display of the club demonstration, and is one of the requirements of a standard club and of the work of a club member. It has been found that when a club plans to make an exhibit, it gives an added incentive to the members to excel in their work. Young people enjoy having their work displayed. Exhibits, therefore, have added much to their pleasure in 4-H club work. Ever since the beginning of club work, members have been encouraged to exhibit at club meetings for the purpose of judging the quality and making ready for the final exhibit at the community, county, or State fair. During 1935, more such 4-H club exhibits, and of a higher quality, were on display than in any previous year. In many cases, 4-H clubs fostered community and county fairs in which their own exhibits were featured. In several States, where there are 4-H county fair associations, outstanding results were reported. Experience has proved that such efforts are worth while, for the club exhibit visualizes the accumulated results of the club's work and gives an opportunity for comparison and improvement as well as for new ideas. Recent exhibits of hobbies have done much to broaden the field of activity of rural young people.

2.-Duthie, Mary Eva. 4-H club work in the life of rural youth. Nat. Com. on Boys' and Girls' Club Work, Chicago. 1936.

Events at the State In 1935, nearly every State agricultural college gave
Agricultural outstanding 4-H club members the opportunity to stay
Colleges from 3 days to 2 weeks each year at the college.

These 4-H club members were given instruction in farm and home work by the college faculty and the extension-service personnel. The 4-H club members also had the delightful experience of living on the college campus, usually in the college dormitories, and of getting acquainted with their own State college. Thereby, new friendships were formed, viewpoints broadened, helpful ideas gained, and contacts with worth-while men and women made.

Achievement The 4-H achievement-day meeting has always been the
Days "crowning" event of the club year. During 1935, there were 13,520 such achievement-day meetings held with a total attendance of 1,563,466 rural people. Because of the nature of the program and the large number of representative people who usually attend, these meetings did much to emphasize the importance of work well done and afforded a splendid means of giving recognition to club members and to those who have aided the club programs. Moreover, these meetings, according to the reports, provided an opportunity to extend the influence of the demonstrations conducted and to obtain for them the endorsement of prominent people.

SERVICE ACTIVITIES

4-H club work is based not only on the needs and interests of 4-H club members, but also on the needs of the agricultural community of which they are a part. 4-H club members are led to feel that they have a useful part of the world's work to do, and that in doing it they may grow mentally, socially, and spiritually. They are led also to feel that they have a definite responsibility in improving their community and in making it finer in every way. Through 4-H club work, countless communities have been materially improved. During 1935 it was the common thing for 4-H clubs as a part of their program of work, in addition to their farm and homemaking project activities, to plant shrubbery and flowers about local schoolyards, town halls, and roadsides; to produce and sell disease-free seed at reasonable prices; to make children's clothing for needy families; to provide hot lunches for local schools; to help to promote county-wide soil and livestock campaigns; to show consideration for animal life on the farm; to improve the quality of crop and livestock raised; to establish community and county 4-H club fairs; to build cottages for 4-H club camps; to improve the quality of the homemaking and agricultural practices prevalent in the community; and to develop good, wholesome dramatics as well as other recreational activities for community programs. During 1935, 12,368 clubs reported having conducted a definite demonstration in such community improvement work. This work was in addition to the countless activities that are being conducted as an incidental part of any 4-H club program including many activities concerned with the improvement of the home, such as the construction of more comfortable and convenient furniture, the building of outdoor fireplaces, and the development of outdoor living rooms to be enjoyed by all members of the family. In all such work, learning to make contacts with outstanding men and women of the community in

positions concerned with the public welfare, was emphasized as an important step in learning to serve one's own community effectively. Moreover, reports indicate that young people in such work have been afforded a delightful opportunity to work side by side with their parents and neighbors. They have learned to recognize and to meet local needs under varying circumstances, and thereby have gained valuable experience as young citizens. It is becoming increasingly common for 4-H clubs to elect one of their members as a delegate to general extension meetings and other farmers' and young people's meetings, where they report what the club has done toward carrying out the community program in homemaking work. It is part of their responsibility, in addition, to take back to their own club group a report of these meetings and general observations, especially regarding home life, made en route. By such means as the foregoing, if enough provision is made for exercise in assuming responsibility, reports indicate that an increasing number of young people are being kept in touch with the best in home and farm life, and are developing thereby a true sense of civic responsibility and genuine leadership in making their community a better place in which to live.

SUMMARY AND OUTLOOK

The year 1935, the twenty-first year of 4-H club work, marked a high point in the club demonstrations conducted by rural young people throughout the United States, in Puerto Rico, and in the Territories of Hawaii and Alaska. This new high mark of nearly a million members enrolled was paralleled by a corresponding new high mark in the number completing in nearly every result demonstration conducted in homemaking or agriculture. Along with this gratifying development was that noted in the fine quality of work involved in the demonstrations under way. Those in a position to observe and compare state that in no previous year has such an improvement been noted in the quality of 4-H club work. In addition, competition as involved in the contest method was considerably lessened in many State and in some national contests, giving way to that finer type of contest, in which members are encouraged to establish their own goals of accomplishment and to compete against their own best records. In several States also, awards were made on the basis of levels of accomplishment rather than on those involving only championship attainments. Outstanding progress throughout the United States was noted in the enrichment of 4-H club programs through cultural activities and personality development; in the better integration of constructive health activities in all 4-H demonstration work; in a more far-reaching recognition of the alinement of 4-H club objectives with the general aims of education; in a greater appreciation by farm girls and boys of their own environment through nature hikes, establishment of nature trails, and the introduction of conservation activities; in a better understanding of the group discussion technique by the older group of young people; in the increase in local leaders' associations or councils and community advisory committees; and in the number of surveys appraising the values of 4-H club work, particularly the report of the Land-Grant College Committee, entitled, "Recommended Policies Governing 4-H Club Work."

All these attainments lead one to believe that greater and more satisfying results in 4-H club work may be obtained provided there is a continued increase in the paid personnel assigned to the 4-H club program, which would make for greater development of the local leadership system along with the further development of those other techniques which have proved of value in meeting the challenge of the unreached and in strengthening and expanding the general 4-H club program.

Moreover, it is believed that there is still much to do in developing among leaders of youth, particularly among extension agents and local leaders, a philosophy that has as its goal, in the words of Dr. O. E. Baker, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, "the preservation of the farm family", encouraging a continuity of family proprietorship in farming as in many foreign countries, and in trusting that it may result "in more real opportunity for rural youth, better land utilization throughout the United States, better protection of property and life, better schools, churches, and other social institutions, a stronger Nation and a happier people - all of vital concern in building upstanding young manhood and womanhood."

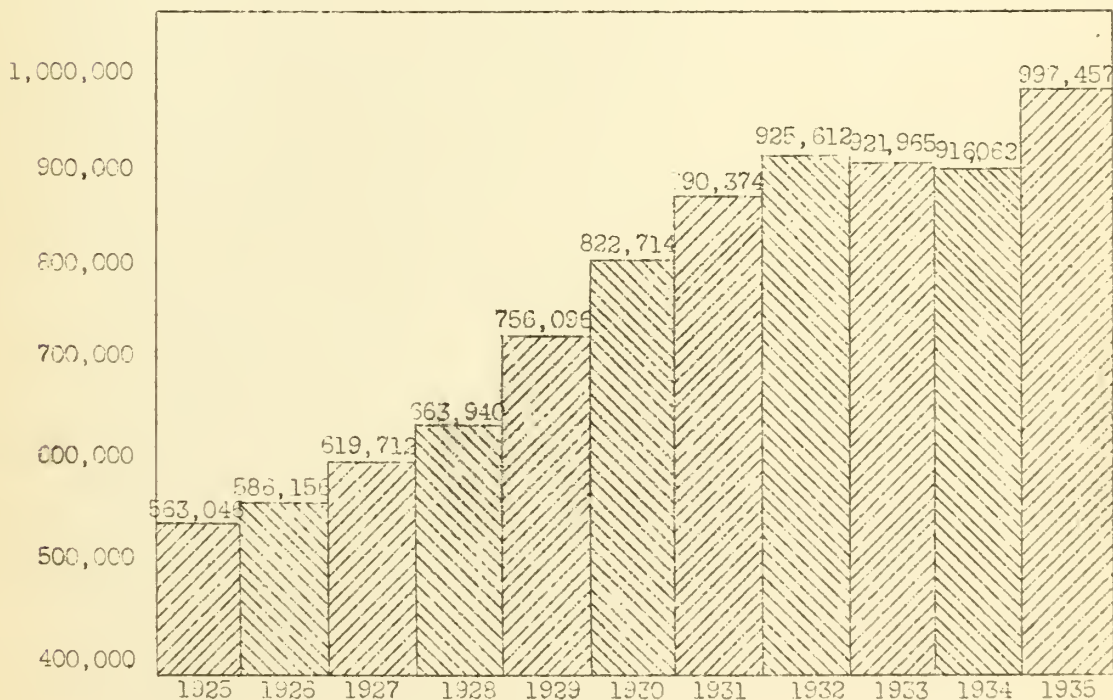


Figure 4.- National 4-H club enrollment.

A Great 4-H Club Year

National Report, 1935

Gertrude L. Warren



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Extension Service C. W. WARBURTON *Director*
Division of Cooperative Extension C. B. SMITH *Chief*
Washington, D.C.